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A True and Perfect NARRATIVE OF THE Tryal and Acquitment OF Mr. John Satterthwayt,

At the Assizes held at *Kingston*, *March* 13. Being Accused for Firing the House of Mr. *Peter Delanoy*, Dyer in *Southwark*.

Written with his own Hand, in a Letter to his Friend in *London*.

Kingston, March 13. 1679.

SIR,

I Presume it's no News to you that I was apprehended and committed to the Marshalsea, for the wicked and felonious entring into, and setting on Fire, the House and Dye-house of *Peter Delanoy* of *Southwark*, Dyer, it being made publick to the World, by our infallible, unerring, *Protestant* News-monger, and therefore I forbore declaring to you my Case, or giving any Account of my self about it, enduring my heavy Irons, my melancholy Imprisonment, and all other my reproachful Sufferings quietly, till God was pleased to deal with me according to my Innocency. And I should still with the same resolution have forborn troubling you, were it not to vindicate my self from the Scandals, that infamous Tongues asperse me withal, concerning the contriving of the said Fire, together with the honourable Profession of a Souldier, the Imployment I follow. And therefore I hope you'l please to peruse patiently these, and pardon me for them.

In the first place I do declare, and I take God to be my Witness therein, that I am a *Protestant*, of the Church of *England*, that I was born and educated so, and never knew my self any other Religion, nor any of my Relations to be of the Church of *Rome*, although my Accuser swore me a *Roman* Catholick.

I do in the second place protest before Almighty God, that knows the truth of all things, I never saw, spoke to, or drank with the Maid that accused me,

till after I was apprehended, nor did I ever see, or hear of Mr. *Delanoy*, or his House, or what Trade he was, until such time I was brought before the Justice, no, nor was I in *Southwark* of a Month before I was taken, or thereabouts.

I am a Gentleman you know, and a Souldier, though it be an Imployment obnoxious to a sort of people in this Age, who are dis-satisfied that His Majesty has any Guard for the Security of his Person. I wish my condition were capable of disposing of 2000 *l.* I should put it to some better use, than so hellish and infernal Design.

It may seem incredible, that a person of my Parts, and Profession too, should be imploy'd in, or that (if it were true) I should treat with an unknown Woman, about so weighty an Affair; or if it were so, what should induce me, next morning, and next door, (as I am informed it is) to come, where I had committed (God knows) so dreadful a Crime.

Now, Sir, I am acquitted, and I do nevertheless solemnly protest, as I hope for mercy at the last Day, I am as innocent of that Crime as the Child that is yet unborn, else may I never see God in his Throne, which, with the following particulars of my Case, I hope may satisfie you.

And if you, the moderate, and the doubtful, be but satisfied, I value not my Misfortunes, let the envious and rude Rabble think what they please, for 'tis not easie to perswade them to believe the truth, when they are once possest with the contrary; nevertheless, if any of them will be so critically curious, as to enquire into any one of the particulars of my Case, they will find what I have therein roughly set down, to plainly appear to be a great truth.

I shall say very little as to the Woman that swore against me; only give me leave to tell you, that those who are acquainted with her, know well what she is, and such as do not, may easily be satisfied, if they please, by several of her late Masters, who have been to visit her in Prison; I pray God forgive her, for I do from my Soul, yet while I live, I shall never forget her, nor the *Bear* at the *Bridge-foot*, where I was so but for nothing, I may live to see his *Bear* run, except he keep him strongly chained, he's not so rich as I am innocent.

But now as to my Trial; I was this morning Indicted, Convicted, Arraigned, and Tryed, with *Margaret Clark*, my Accuser, both by one Indictment, to which I pleaded *Not Guilty*, (as God knows I might without sinning, safely do) and so did my Yoke-mate; there were 4 Witnesses sworn, two Men, and two Women, of little credit, and less fashion; the Men wanted Matter to swear, and especially a peevish Waterman; they proved the Fire; that was evident before, by the Maids own confessing, (though she pleaded *Not Guilty* now) which was sufficient for her turn; the two Women, the other Witnesses, one of them very briskly swore, she had oft seen me in *Southwark*, and particularly on *Thursday* before the Fire broke out, but could not say, she had either seen me in *Delanoy*'s House, or in his Maids company; the other Witness swore, she saw a Man go on *Sunday* into *Delanoy*'s House in a red Coat, and come out again, but did not see his Face, nor could she say I was the person; very angry the Witnesses were they could swear no better; how my Persecutors were pleased, I leave that to themselves, believing they had rather hanged the innocent, than the Maid guilty, judging so, from what words a giddy Brain, passionate Coxcomb, an Apprentice to *Delanoy*, spoke in Court, who thought he had more wit than my Judge, and more honesty than my Jury, and would have

have me damned before I was condemned; I am so much a Christian, as not to wish him harm, but the contrary, desiring his Soul may find Favour from the great Judge of Allize in the other, for certain I am, his Face will find but little from the lesser Judges of this World.

The Maid her self was examined; she denied impudently what she had before confessed, as to her self, but stood firmly to her first principles; as to my particular, I was the person, and like *Cataline*, resolved to add greater Evils to those she had before committed; but she being Arraigned, her Evidence was of no effect.

The stress lying chiefly on *Thursday*, *Jan.* 9. and *Sunday*, *Feb.* 1 some of my Witnesses were examined, and then the Judge proceeded to give the Jury their Charge, in fine, they brought her in *Guilty*, and me otherwise, a Favour I could not have expected from many *Southwark* Juries. I thank this kindly for it, I am contented, but I hope to have no further experience of their Favours; and now I only wait for my Discharge, not doubting in a day or two to be with you.

There were many Prisoners, and several Trials of sundry natures, which I shall not trouble you with; only in behalf of three Gentlemen, *Seamour*, alias *Herring*, *Smith*, and *Sherby*; two of them are cast in five Indictments, and the third in four Indictments, for Robbery and Felony on the High-way. With which I conclude my tedious Epistle, and leave you to peruse my sale truly stated with a Copy of my Compartment.

A Brief State of the Case of Mr. John Satterthwayt, *one of His Royal Highness's Troop of his Majesties Guards, Committed to the Prison of the* Marshalsea, *for the wicked and felonious entring into, and setting on Fire the House and Dye-house of* Edward Delanoy, *on* Sunday *night, the first of* Feb. *last*, 1679.

1. *Isabella Satterthwayt* his Mother, and *John Satterthwayt* of *Gray's-Inne*, his Uncle. — To prove his Education was in the *Protestant*, and not in the *Romish* Religion.

2. His Certificate out of the Petty-Bag Office. — To prove his receiving the Sacrament, and taking the several Oaths of Allegiance, Supremacy, and Test.

3. His Officers and Fellow-Souldiers. — To give an account of his Life and Conversation, and what sort of people he usually kept company and conversed withall.

4. Mr. *John Griffith*, Mr *Davenport*, Mr. *Fish*, Mr. *Huddleston*, and Mr. *Whatton* Gentlemen of his Majesties Guard. — To prove they with the said Mr. *Satterthwayt* all met at the Pay-Table at *Whitehall*, on *Thursday* Jan. 29. and that about three of the Clock in the Afternoon, they went to the One Tun Tavern in St. *Martins-lane*.

5. The said five Gentlemen, the Master of the House, his Drawer, the Constable, and part of his Watch. — To prove him at the said One Tun from about three of the Clock as aforesaid on *Thursday* Afternoon, till about three of the Clock on *Friday* Morning, *Jan.* 30.

6. Four of the said Gentlemen, &c. — To prove he never was out of their Company from *Friday* morning at three of the Clock, till about two in the Afternoon, during which time they were not out of their Quarters in and about *Pickadilly*.

7. Mr.

7. Mr. *Bagley* and his Wife, in *Vine-street* in St. *Giles*. — To prove he came to their House on *Friday* about two of the Clock in the Afternoon, that he staid and slept there till about eight at Night, and then went home to his Mothers House next door.

8. His said Mother, and *Mary Hills* her Lodger. — To prove he came home about eight of the Clock as aforesaid, went to Bed, rose not till next morning about nine of the Clock *Jan.* 31. when he was called by an Officer to go to the Guard.

9. The said Officer and most of the Guard. — To prove his coming accordingly to the Guard, staid there till three of the Clock in the Afternoon, the usual time of Relief, and then came to the Cock and Bottle in *New-street* in *Covent-Garden*.

10. Lieut *Griffith*, Mr. *John Griffith*, Mr. *Fiso*, Mr. *Davenport*, Mr. *Huddleston*, Mr. *Cardiffe*, the Master & Mistress of the House, *&c.* — To prove he came thither about four of the Clock on *Saturday* Afternoon aforesaid, staid there in their Company in the said House till about nine of the Clock at Night, at which time the said Company parted.

11. *Tho. Stanton* his Farrier, and Mr. *John Griffith*. — To prove he called on his said Farrier betwixt nine and ten of the Clock on *Saturday* Night aforesaid, and ordered the said Farrier to come to the Swan-Inn in *Castle-street*, and he should be paid his Bill.

12. Mr. *Philips* Master of the said Swan, his Wife, Mr. *John Griffith* that lay with him, and the said Farrier. — To prove he came into the Swan-house on *Saturday* Night about ten of the Clock as aforesaid, paid both the Landlady and Farrier, lay there all Night, rose not out of Bed till *Sunday* Afternoon. That about four of the Clock he spoke to the Landlord to get him a Fowl for Supper, which was accordingly fetch'd about the time people came from Evening-Prayer. That he Supp'd there, and in fine stirr'd not abroad all day, till about ten of the Clock at Night, being *Sunday* Febr. 2. 1678.

13. His said Mother, & the said *Mary Hills*. — To prove he came home about half an hour past ten at Night on *Sunday* Febr. 1. as aforesaid, that he went to Bed, and rose not till about nine on *Monday* Morning, *Febr.* 2. 79.

14. Mrs. *H.* the person he was to meet, and Mrs. *B. &c.* — To prove they had some time before, *viz. Jan.* 30. in the Afternoon, resolved on a Meeting in *Southwark*; but till that Morning the hour and place was not appointed; the said Mrs. *H.* then sending a Maid to him, to let him know she was going into *Southwark*, received back this Answer, That he would presently meet her at the Bear at the *Bridge-foot*.

15. His said Mother, *&c.* — To prove he stirr'd not out of doors on *Monday*, till about ten of the Clock in the Morning.

16. Mr. *Davenport*. — To prove he called to speak with him about eleven on *Monday* aforesaid, when his Mother told him he was gone out about an hour before.

Surry *ss.* To the Keepers of the Common Goal of the said County.

WHereas John Satterthwayt, *whom we herewith send you, is charged upon Oath before us, by one* Margaret Clark, *a late Servant to* Peter Delanoy, *of* Southwark, *Dyer, for the wicked and felonious entring into, and setting on Fire the House and Dye-house of the said* Peter Delanoy, *on* Sunday *last past: These are therefore in His Majesties Name to require you, to receive the said* John Satterthwayt *into your Custody, and him to keep safe, until he shall be thence delivered by due course of Law. Given under our Hands and Seals the* 2d. *day of* Feb. Ann. Dom. 1679.

Ja. Reading. Jo. Freeman. Vera Copia.

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